

With Dr. Long's Compt.

1906.

THE
Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

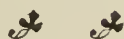
FOR THE
Rural District of Saint Faiths,

Together with the Report of the
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

MACKLEY AND BUNN, PRINTERS, NORWICH.

ST. FAITHS UNION.

Population : 13,025.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

BIRTHS.

During the year the number of Births registered in the Union was 305, which is equivalent to a Birth rate of 23·4 per 1000 of estimated population. This is a slight increase on the Birth rate (23·0) of the year 1905. The Birth rate for rural England and Wales during 1906 was 26·3 ; and the average for the past 10 years in the Union is 25·5.

DEATHS.

There were 194 Deaths registered in the Union during the past year. This is equivalent to a gross Death rate of 14·8. Of this number 37 occurred amongst the inmates of the City Asylum at Hellesdon, and therefore amongst non-residents. By deducting these the Nett Death rate for the year is 12·0 per 1000, as compared with 13·0 in the year 1905. This is the lowest Death rate that has been recorded in the Union for the past 5 years. The Death rate from all causes in rural England and Wales during the year 1906 was 15·0.

There has been a considerable improvement in the Infant mortality in the district during the past year, when the Death rate amongst children under 1 year was 118·0 per 1000 Births, as compared with 134·2 during the year 1905, and 129·6, the average for the past 10 years.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1906.

	Annual Rates per 1000 Living.		Infant Mortality : Annual Death rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	
St. Faith's Union	23·4	12·0	118
England and Wales	27·0	15·4	133
76 great towns	27·9	16·0	146
142 smaller towns	26·5	14·4	138
England and Wales less the 218 towns	26·3	15·0	115

There were 9 deaths due to the Zymotic Diseases—the same number as last year. These included 5 from Enteritic in infants under 1 year ; 1 from Measles ; 1 from Whooping Cough ; 1 from Diptheria ; and 1 from Typhoid Fever.

In 8 instances the death was not certified by a medical man, and 5 inquests were held by the Coroner.

MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES IN THE WHOLE DISTRICT
PER 1000 ESTIMATED INHABITANTS.

	1906.	1905.
Under 1 year	2·7	3·1
1 year to 5 years	0·6	0·6
5 „ 15 „	0·5	0·1
15 „ 25 „	0·3	1·0
25 „ 65 „	3·8	4·6
65 „ and upwards	6·7	7·5

INFANT MORTALITY.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR TO 1000 BIRTHS.

	1906.	1905.	Average for past 10 years.
Whole District	118·0	134·2	129·6

In the Parish of Sprowston there were 13 deaths in infants under 1 year, with a registration of 73 Births.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES—Notified and Deaths.

During the year 1906 56 cases of Infectious Disease were notified to me under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1899, as compared with 54 in the year 1905; 41 of these were cases of Scarlet Fever, which occurred in mild epidemic form in the Parish of St. Faiths during the months of July and August, and in Great Witchingham during September. However, no deaths occurred from this disease.

In the following table are shown the number and nature of the cases of Zymotic Disease that occurred during the year :—

			Notified.	Deaths.
*Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	41	0
*Diphtheria ...	...	...	8	1
*Enteric Fever ...	...	...	4	1
*Puerperal Fever ..	...	...	1	0
*Erysipelas ...	...	...	2	0
Diarrhœa ...	...	...	—	5
Measles ...	...	...	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	—	1
			<hr/> 56	<hr/> 9

*Notifiable Diseases.

There were 19 Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption) and 5 from other forms of Tuberculosis.

DEATH RATE FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS PER 1000 INHABITANTS.

	1906.	1905.
Whole District (excluding City Asylum)	1·2	0·7

DEATH RATE FROM CANCER PER 1000 INHABITANTS.

	1906.	1905.
Whole District (excluding City Asylum)	0·7	0·7

SCARLET FEVER :—41 cases.

12 of these occurred in St. Faiths, where there was a small epidemic during the month of July.

- 11 at Great Witchingham. In response to a letter received from the schoolmaster of this village in the month of September. 1 went over and inspected the school children, and found that many had been and several still were, suffering from a mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever. I persuaded several of the parents to call in a doctor, which none of them had previously done, and immediately closed the school, and as a result no fresh cases occurred.
- 7 at Catton. 4 of these cases occurred in Rackham's Fields amongst children who were attending either the Philadelphia Lane or Angel Road Schools in Norwich, and here the infection was undoubtedly contracted.
- 3 at Sprowston. Here again the infection, in one instance, at least, was traceable to one of the City Schools.
- 1 at the Yew Tree Farm, Rackheath. At this farm, where a small dairy was worked, I was obliged to prohibit the sale of milk during the period of infection.
- 3 at Honingham, all in the same family. In this instance the infection was contracted in East Dereham. At the house, the Brick Kiln Farm, where these cases occurred, I was enabled to get considerable necessary alterations to the drainage effected.
- 3 at Horsford.
- 2 at Wroxham, both in one family in Post Office Yard. The drains in this yard were found to be in a defective state. New, properly-trapped drains were laid; a large new gully fixed in the centre of the yard; and the privy bins repaired and fitted with new covers.

DIPHTHERIA :—8 cases.

- 1 at St. Faiths. Nothing insanitary was found in the dwelling here; but a complaint was made by the occupier that a butcher was in the habit of carrying blood from his slaughter house during the day-time, past the door of the house. This nuisance was stopped.

5 at Drayton. It will be remembered that towards the end of 1905 there was an epidemic of diphtheria in this village, so that the occurrence of these few cases during the current year was not unexpected. None were fatal cases. In one instance a non-trapped drain leading into a cesspool from which the ventilation shaft had been removed was found, and these defects were remedied.

2 at Sprowston. One of these occurred in Boar Lane. After the illness the bed linen and mattresses were burnt and replaced by the Council. I also had the drinking water analysed and found it of good quality. The source of the infection remained undetermined. The other case occurred at the "Brickmakers' Arms," and was a very doubtful case.

ERYSIPELAS :—2 cases.

1 at Frettenham.

1 at Sprowston.

PUERPERAL FEVER :—1 case.

This occurred at Catton. The woman was attended in her confinement by a midwife, whom I have more than once warned the Inspector of Midwives against in previous years. I am now glad to report that her name has been erased from the roll of midwives.

TYPHOID FEVER :—4 cases. .

1 at Catton. This occurred in a new house where nothing unsanitary could be discovered. The patient was moved to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.

2 at Sprowston. Negotiations are now proceeding with Mr. Eustace Gurney to have certain alterations effected to the drainage of one of the two house where these cases occurred. In the second case an untrapped receptacle, without any overflow drain, was found close to the house. New, properly trapped drains, leading to a new dead-well have since been laid.

1 at Horsford. The infection in this case was contracted from one of the two above-mentioned cases at Sprowston.

LIST OF SCHOOLS CLOSED IN THE ST. FAITHS UNION
DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Name of School.	Period Closed.	In consequence of
Catton	14 days	Measles.
Great Witchingham	21 ,,	Scarlet Fever.
Sprowston	21 ,,	Measles. Whooping Cough

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

To Mr. Arthur W. Preston, F.R., Met. Soc., I am indebted for the following observations made by him during the year. Since last year he has transferred his meteorological station from Brundall to Norwich, which latter place is about the centre of the Union on its Eastern boundary.

Barometer (reduced to Sea Level and 32 deg. F.) :—

Highest (Jan. 23rd)	...	30·65 ins.
Lowest (Feb. 10th)	...	28·83 ,,
Mean	... ..	29·943 ,,

Temperature—Maximum (Sept. 3rd)	...	...	Deg. 93·0
Minimum (Dec. 27th)—			
In Screen	...	...	15·8
On grass	...	...	13·2
Mean daily maximum	...	...	57·1
Mean daily minimum	...	...	42·3
Mean temperature of year	...	...	49·7
Mean daily range	...	...	14·8
Mean dry bulb (9 a.m.)	...	...	50·6
Mean wet bulb (9 a.m.)	...	...	47·2
Mean dew point (9 a.m.)	...	...	43·8
Mean relative humidity (9 a.m.)	...	...	78 p.c.
No. of nights with frost—			
In screen	...	...	58
On grass	...	...	116

Rainfall—Total fall	..	...	...	Inches. 28·54
Above average by	..	...	...	2·79
Greatest fall in one day (Nov. 8th)	...	...	...	1·05
No. of days on which rain or snow fell	...	...	...	202
No. of days on which snow fell	...	...	...	31

Wind—Prevailing directions W. and S.W. Gales on 15 days.

NOTES ON THE YEAR.

All the months, except December, equalled or exceeded the average temperature, January and August being as much as 3 deg., and October as much as 5 deg. above the normal. The year's range of temperature was very great, September 3rd having been more than 77 deg. warmer than December 27th. Rainfall was in excess in each month except April, July, August, and September, which were drier than usual, the three latter months giving a combined rainfall of only half the average. The year was chiefly remarkable for many unusual and almost unprecedented phenomena, which have been more or less dealt with in the foregoing description, but which may be summarised as follows :—

1. The wettest January for 39 years.
2. The most severe winter thunderstorm (February 8th) on record.
3. The warmest day in the first week in March for 80 years (67 deg. on March 7th).
4. The great fall in temperature (30 deg. in five days) which followed, and the suddenness of the changes of temperature during the spring and summer.
5. The summer-like weather of Easter, with clear skies and summer heat.
6. The extraordinary thunderstorm of May 13th, lasting twelve consecutive hours.
7. The unusually fine summer and excess of sunshine.
8. The constant succession of electric disturbances in August.
9. The phenomenal heat of 31st August to 3rd September, during which the record was beaten on three days.
10. The latest "60" (on November 22nd) recorded here for fifty years.
11. The extraordinary thunderstorms in December in parts of Norfolk.
12. The snowstorm of December 26th, which was the heaviest for 26 years.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Month.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.		Greatest fall in one day.
	Max. degs.	Min. degs.	Mean. degs.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	
Jan. ...	52·0	26·8	40·7	3·96	22	·60
Feb. ...	49·0	27·4	38·1	2·72	22	·46
Mar. ...	67·0	27·0	41·4	1·99	20	·30
April ...	72·2	28·8	45·6	·66	11	·25
May ...	73·6	31·8	53·1	2·67	15	1·01
June ...	78·4	36·0	56·8	2·31	13	·84
July ...	82·5	44·2	62·6	·78	10	·39
August ...	91·5	43·2	63·9	1·87	9	·80
Sept. ...	93·0	34·4	58·7	1·14	12	·30
Oct. ...	72·4	32·6	54·2	3·21	21	·86
Nov. ...	60·0	29·2	45·8	4·40	23	1·05
Dec. ...	52·2	15·8	35·5	2·83	24	·76
Year ...	93·0	15·8	49·7	28·54	202	1·05

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Year.	TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.		Greatest fall in one day
	Max. degs.	Min. degs.	Mean. degs.	Total ins.	Days with rain.	
1897 ...	85·0	21·2	49·4	22·07	192	·92
1898 ...	89·0	22·4	50·5	23·33	166	1·80
1899 ...	87·0	13·0	49·8	23·94	174	1·14
1900 ...	87·2	18·4	49·6	26·99	222	1·23
1901 ...	83·5	9·2	48·8	21·06	175	1·60
1902 ...	83·4	14·0	48·4	22·30	192	·80
1903 ...	86·0	24·8	49·5	29·44	208	2·28
1904 ...	87·6	21·0	49·3	21·50	180	·60
1905 ...	82·6	21·4	49·0	22·96	205	1·05
1906 ...	93·0	15·8	49·7	28·54	202	1·05

The Chairman of your Council (Mr. T. Cozens-Hardy) has kindly furnished me with a summary of his observations made at Oak Lodge, Sprowston.

RAINFALL IN 1906.

RAIN GAUGE.

Diameter of Funnel, 5 ins.

Height { Above Ground, 1 ft.

of top { Above Sea Level, 101 ft.

Month.	Total Depth.		Greatest fall in 24 hrs.		No. of Days on which .01 or more fell.	
			Depth.	Date.		
January ...	3·61	...	·53	5th	...	21
February ...	2·20	...	·40	16th	...	21
March ...	1·96	...	·31	1st	...	23
April ...	·65	...	·24	27th	...	10
May ...	3·43	...	1·03	12th	...	15
June ...	1·90	...	·74	28th	...	13
July ...	·58	...	·27	27th	...	9
August ...	1·88	...	·78	8th	...	9
September ...	1·11	...	·37	16th	...	10
October ...	2·64	...	·82	2nd	...	19
November ...	4·32	...	1·12	8th	...	19
December ...	3·05	...	·84	25th	...	20
Total ...	27·33					189

Mr. Cozens-Hardy, in his comments, says : “ The rainfall for 1906 was nearly 3 inches above the average for the last 66 years. January, February, May, November, and December were very wet months. April, July, August, and September were dry. There was no snow in January, but a very heavy fall on the early morning of Boxing-day.”

During the year I have paid frequent visits, often with my Inspector, to the various Parishes in the Union, and on the whole I can report favourably to you. If the rate of mortality is any criterion as to the general health of the Union, then I think we shall compare very favourably with most rural districts in England. Our infant mortality has markedly decreased during the year, and this in spite of the fact that the amount of zymotic disease amongst children has been rather more than usual. The new “ Infant Mortality Table,” as supplied by the Local Government Board this year, and to be found at the end of this report, contains some interesting statistics.

The following are one or two matters I would specially mention.

HONINGHAM :—At the boundary of the Union with that of Forehoe, a number of cottages in the parish of Coulton drain into an open ditch—really a water course—which enters a drain under the boundary road of the two parishes and discharges into another ditch by the side of the road on premises occupied by Mr. Walesby, in the parish of Honingham. This has become a nuisance, and has to be periodically cleaned out by Mr. Walesby. The Clerk of St. Faiths Council is negotiating with the Clerk to the Forehoe Council to have this nuisance done away with.

During November Anthrax appeared amongst Cattle on two farms in this parish. On its being notified to me I immediately went over to inspect, and found all precautions had been taken. The cases were limited to two bullocks on one farm, and one on another farm.

TAVERHAM :—The offices of the school here are situated too close to the main building to be healthy. I made efforts to get the authorities to pull these down and build others further away. However, owing principally to the uncertain state of things in the education world this scheme fell through ; and, instead, a new urinal has been provided, the old bin removed and replaced by pans, and the dust-bin covered.

DRAYTON :—Although the ventilation of this school has been considerably improved by the alteration recently made by the Managers, yet the water-supply for the children has still to be fetched from the village in a tank-on-wheels. This is not altogether satisfactory, especially during the summer months, and I hope the managers will soon see their way out of the difficulty.

WROXHAM :—The new latrine system of closets put up at this school are, in every way a success, and I should like to see the offices of some of the other schools in the Union altered to the same principle.

HORSFORD :—At the “Dog” Inn considerable alterations to the drains have been carried out, and a new dead well made, to take the place of an open receptacle by the side of the road.

The Bake Offices and Workshops that come within the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, have been inspected during the year, and it has been unnecessary for me to report anything to H.M. Inspector of Factories.

WATER-SUPPLY. As the result of the increased rainfall during the past year most of the wells in the district have reached their normal level of water again. I have had two samples of water analysed from the Parish of Sprowston, and in both instances it was reported as good drinking water.

In conclusion, I have once again to thank the medical men practising in the District for the assistance they have given me in the carrying out of my duties ; and for the very energetic and thorough manner in which Mr. Fox does his work I cannot speak in too high praise.

SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.,

Norwich, 9th Feb., 1907.

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1907.

SIR,

St. Faiths R.D.C.

The following Nuisances have been dealt with during the year 1906 :—

Dead wells and cesspools emptied ...	...	62
Drains cleaned out ...	...	40
Privies emptied and cleansed ...	...	270
Heaps of manure removed ...	...	46
Offensive pig styies cleaned ...	...	17
New drains laid ...	..	10
Drains repaired ...	...	15
Privies repaired ...	...	39
,, converted to pan system ...	...	19

Privies new built	...	...	...	8
Overcrowded houses	..	..	...	2
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	40
Schools ,,	...	...	...	2

DRINKING WATER.

New wells sunk	...	...	...	3
Wells cleaned out	...	...	...	10
Pumps repaired	...	...	...	14

NEW BUILDINGS.

Catton	2
Sprowston	2
Haynford	1
Brandiston	1

ALTERATIONS TO HOUSES.

St. Faiths	2
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CERTIFICATES GRANTED.

Drinking Water	7
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LICENSES GRANTED.

Petrol	2
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SPECIAL SANITARY COMMITTEE INSPECTIONS.

Feb. 28th. Sprowston Black Horse row ; insanitary surroundings.

Dec. 29th. Sprowston Ship fields ; drainage.

Several of the cottages in the parish of Brandiston (including three condemned by the M.O.H.) have been neglected by the late owner, who has given much trouble. I am pleased to report that the notices sent to the present owner have been complied with, and the houses are being put in good repair.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

THOS. FOX,

Dr. S. H. Long.

Inspector of Nuisances.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institutions in the District. 10.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		
		Number. 3.	Rate.* 4.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.			Number. 11.	Rate.* 12.	
				Number. 5.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered. 6.	Number. 7.	Rate.* 8.				
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1896	12,553	333	25.9	59	179.3	200	15.5	...	...	200	15.5
1897	12,616	364	28.3	48	131.8	178	13.7	...	...	178	13.7
1898	12,876	344	26.4	43	125.0	178	13.7	...	...	179	13.9
1899	13,067	331	24.9	36	108.7	154	11.8	...	...	154	11.8
1900	13,219	358	28.6	51	142.0	186	14.0	...	...	186	14.0
1901	12,559	298	23.8	33	110.7	178	14.2	47	37	141	11.2
1902	12,647	305	24.9	45	147.5	217	17.1	53	40	177	13.9
1903	12,753	321	25.1	26	81.0	213	16.7	57	43	170	13.3
1904	12,828	310	24.1	42	136.1	235	18.3	51	42	193	15.0
1905	12,914	298	23.0	40	134.2	222	17.1	63	45	177	13.7
Averages for years 1896- 1905.	12,803	326	25.5	42	129.6	196	15.2	54	41	175	13.6
1906	13,025	305	23.4	36	118.0	194	14.8	57	37	157	12.0

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 12 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	...	...	...	48,304
Total Population at all ages	...	...	...	At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	"
Average number of persons per house	...	...	...	"
				4.5

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Whole District.	Sprowston Sub-District.
		1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Diphtheria	8	1	2	1	4	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	41	5	34	1	1	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	4	...	2	1	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	56	6	39	3	8	...	...	...

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all Ages).			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Whole District.	Sprowston Sub-District.	Work- house.	
Measles ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Diphtheria ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	5	2	2	...	..	1	...	1	4	...	...
Enteritis ...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
Phthisis ...	19	...	1	2	3	13	...	9	3	4	7
Other Tubercular Diseases	5	1	1	1	1	1	...	2	2	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	10	...	...	...	...	6	4	10	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	11	3	...	...	...	...	8	8	2	...	1
Pneumonia ...	8	1	3	...	...	2	2	4	2	...	2
Pleurisy ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...
Diseases and Accidents } of Parturition	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...
Heart Diseases...	13	...	...	1	...	2	10	8	4	...	1
Accidents ...	4	...	...	1	...	1	2	4	...	...	...
Senile Decay ...	52	...	...	...	...	1	51	20	5	9	27
Nervous Diseases	11	...	...	...	...	9	2	1	...	...	10
All other Causes	37	17	1	...	...	10	9	25	4	5	8
All causes ...	194	36	9	7	4	50	88	99	38	19	57

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	8 2	1 ..	3 ..	1 ..	13 2	5 ..	3 1	1 ..	.. ..	3 ..	.. ..	1 1	1 ..	1 ..	.. ..	4 ..	32 4
Diarrhoea, all forms...	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Premature Birth	5	1	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Congenital Defects	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at Birth	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	5
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Other Causes	2	..	3	1	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	8
	10	1	3	1	15	5	4	1	..	3	..	2	1	1	..	4	36

Population, estimated to middle of 1906, 13,025 Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 194.
 Births in the year—Legitimate , Illegitimate . Deaths in the year of Legitimate Infants , Illegitimate Infants